

October 19, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of TechAmerica's approximately 1,000 members, I write to comment briefly in regard to the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") consideration of a Connect America Fund and Intercarrier Compensation reform at its upcoming Open Meeting on October 27.¹

TechAmerica's members include all companies in the technology industry with a vested interest in the deployment and use of broadband networks.

TechAmerica applauds the Commission for determining that the Universal Service Fund ("USF"), as currently constituted, is woefully inadequate for ensuring all Americans have access to broadband Internet service. The Commission's recommendation to transition the current USF into the Connect America Fund is worthy of prudent action.

Ensuring that every corner of this country can leverage the power of broadband will spur untold innovation and job creation in a variety of technology sectors and deliver countless opportunities to the millions of people who live in underserved and unserved communities.

As the FCC considers the proposal, it must ensure that the framework is flexible enough to keep up with the rapid pace of innovation and doesn't promote technology mandates.

TechAmerica looks forward to the FCC's consideration of the proposal on October 27 and welcomes the opportunity to provide input to the FCC as the regulatory process evolves.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher E. Wilson
Christopher E. Wilson
Director and Counsel, E-Commerce and Telecommunications

¹ FCC Announces Tentative Agenda for October Open Meeting, News Release, (Oct. 6, 2011).